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Korea, Republic of

Grain and Feed

Rice Production Update

2005

Approved by:

Larry M. Senger
U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:

Stanley S. Phillips//Sunchul Choi

Report Highlights:

The current rice production estimate for 2005 for South Korea has been lowered to 4.77 million metric tons due to unfavorable weather during the growing period and a decrease in planted area, which declined by 4.5 percent as compared with last year's planted area. Production, supply and distribution figures have not been changed from the Post's previous rice production forecast, which remains at 4.75 MMT. When MAF's final estimate is available in mid-November, Post will make a determination about the 2005 PS&D production number.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Seoul [KS1]
[KS]

On October 6, due to the fact that rice acreage was 21,000 HA less than last year, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) announced that its initial 2005 rice crop estimate is 4.77 million metric tons (MMT) which is down 4.5 percent over last year. This estimate is based on an across-the-nation survey of 9,000 rice producers. Even though this year's rice crop has experienced less damage from typhoons and severe rainfall than last year's, the lack of sunlight and lower temperatures during the growing period (from the end of June through the end of July) and a decrease in the application of nitrogen fertilizer have resulted in lower average yields than in the previous year. Nitrogen fertilizer use was down in an attempt by farmers to increase the quality of this year's crop. The average yield for this year's crop is estimated at 490 KG per 10 "are" (100 are = 1 HA), down 2.8 percent from last year's.

MAF plans to release its final estimate for rice production in the middle of November when the rice harvest is completed. Its final estimate may change depending on weather conditions in October.

Korea: Rice Area, Yield and Production			
Crop Year	Area (1,00HA)	Yield (KG/10A)	Production (Milled, 1,000 MT)
1991	1,209	446	5,385
1992	1,157	461	5,331
1993 a/	1,136	418	4,750
1994	1,103	459	5,060
1995 b/	1,056	445	4,694
1996	1,050	507	5,323
1997	1,052	518	5,449
1998	1,059	482	5,097
1999	1,066	495	5,263
2000	1,072	497	5,291
2001	1,083	516	5,515
2002 c/	1,053	471	4,927
2003 d/	1,016	441	4,451
2004	1,001	504	5,000
2005	980	490	4,774

a/ Wet and unseasonably cool weather during the summer.

b/ Flood damage in August in the central regions and unfavorable weather throughout the peninsula during the latter part of the growing season.

c/ Heavy rains during the summer and the effects of typhoon Rusa (Aug. 31 – Sep.1)

d/ Cool and rainy days during the growing season and the effects of typhoon Maemi (September 9 - 12)

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry